



THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD BAND

Captain Kenneth W. Megan, Director

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U.S. Coast Guard Band (pb)
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
15 Mohegan Avenue
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FALL 2012

www.uscg.mil/band

OUT AND ABOUT

on the cover

The United States Coast Guard Dixieland Band performed in Times Square as part of New York's Fleet Week festivities. The group, along with fellow performers from The U.S. Navy New Orleans Jazz Band and The Quantico Marine Corps Band, reached an audience of thousands. Held nearly every year since 1984, Fleet Week New York is the city's celebration of the sea services. Fleet Week New York provides an opportunity for the citizens of New York City and the surrounding tri-state area to meet Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, as well as see, first-hand, the latest capabilities of today's maritime services. More than 6,000 service men and women from the U.S. and coalition nations arrived aboard the ships. This year, Fleet Week New York was one of the signature events around the country commemorating OpSail 2012, the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the Star-Spangled Banner.

The United States Coast Guard Brass Quintet had the privilege of performing the national anthem at Boston's Fenway Park on Memorial Day. The series opener between the Boston Red Sox and Detroit Tigers was seen by a packed stadium of over 38,000 fans, and was televised on the New England Sports Network (NESN). Quintet trumpeter and self-described "long suffering fan of the Red Sox," Chief Musician Kelly Watkins, submitted an audio recording for consideration. Given the thousands of yearly submissions, it was an honor for the group to be selected to perform.

The quintet's performance was among Major League Baseball's nationwide effort to honor U.S. servicemen and women on Memorial Day. At the Fenway Park game, Red Sox legend Johnny Pesky, 92, who missed three seasons to serve in World War II, was also honored.



The United States Coast Guard Band Clarinet Quartet delivered a featured performance at the 2012 International Clarinet Association's conference, in Lincoln, Nebraska. They were one of three premier military band clarinet ensembles invited to perform. Chief Musician Chantal Hovendick also joined representatives from all six of the country's premier military bands in a military round table discussion. The USCG Clarinet Quartet is made up of Band members Senior Chief Musician Andy Greci, Chief Musicians Chantal Hovendick and Kelly Hurrell, and Musician First Class Chris Howard. They have appeared in recital at Carnegie Hall, New York; the Potsdam Single Reed Summit, SUNY at Potsdam; the University of Connecticut; the University of Rhode Island; Connecticut College; and ClarinetFest 2010 in Austin, Texas.



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The United States Coast Guard Band, along with the United States Coast Guard Barque *Eagle*, participated in the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration and Operation Sail (OpSail) 2012. Kicking off in New Orleans, Louisiana for NOLA Navy Week, OpSail also held events in New York, New York; Norfolk, Virginia; Baltimore, Maryland; Boston, Massachusetts; and New London, Connecticut. This year's festivities were the sixth of the iconic event, whose mission is to foster sail training and promote good will among nations. OpSail 2012 had an estimated 12.5 million visitors at its six ports of call, with *Eagle* hosting countless visitors aboard for touring.

The Coast Guard Band's concert in New Orleans at the historic Saint Louis Cathedral was also the start of the Band's Southwest U.S. tour. The Coast Guard Dixieland Band played at the famed jazz venue Preservation Hall in the French Quarter. The Coast Guard Band, Dixieland Band, and the Band's many chamber groups gave performances at all of the six OpSail 2012 events, including a Dixieland Band performance at Times Square during New York's Fleet Week, and a full Band Independence Day performance in Boston. The culmination of the 2012 festivities was in the Band's own New London at Sailfest, where the Band gave an evening performance at Fort Trumbull State Park preceding the evening's fireworks.



Recent Band retiree **Chief Musician Steve Wade** leaves behind a thirty year legacy of outstanding performance as principal oboist, oboist in the USCG Woodwind Quintet, and avid recitalist. His countless hours of work promoting the Band's Chamber Players Recital Series have been an instrumental part of the success of the program. We bid MUC Wade fair winds and following seas in his new adventures outside of the Coast Guard Band.

After thirty years of traveling with the Band- how many states and foreign countries have you visited?
In the past thirty years, I have visited all but two of the United States. I have never been to Alaska or Montana. For foreign countries I have visited the Soviet Union twice, England, Japan twice and Taiwan.

Do you have a favorite place you have traveled with the Band?

San Francisco comes to mind right away. The Bay Area is beautiful, and the California coastline north of the city is dramatic and thrilling. A trip to San Francisco was the first major traveling I did as a Band member, and I have been there many times over the years. I have made some unforgettable trips to Fort Bragg, Mendocino, Bodega Bay, and Monterey, and I even managed to play golf at the Pebble Beach. (I shot a courageous 92 in the wind wearing my street shoes.)

I will also remember my first big tour to Colorado. The countryside was breathtaking. My friends and I coaxed a very iffy rental car all the way up and down Pike's Peak, and celebrated with a ten cent cup of coffee in the town of Victor, bedroom community to Cripple Creek, pop. 200 or so.

What was your favorite concert or performance with the Band?

There are several performances that I will always remember. The joint concert in Leningrad in 1989 with the Leningrad Military District Band was historic, and the concert in front of the Kazan Cathedral on the Nyevsky Prospect was life-changing; our concerts in and around Tokyo in 2008 were thrilling; an outdoor performance we shared with a British military band at the Southwick House in England was great fun; and the performances in Taiwan in the hot summer of 2011 were almost athletic achievements. I will never forget playing chamber music in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, or playing Respighi in Woolsey Hall in New Haven, or recording a tough program on DVD with Leonard Slatkin conducting, or playing wonderful quintet concerts everywhere from the small town of Westmorland, NH, to the Rayburn Office Building in Washington, DC. The performances at the Midwest Clinic at the Chicago Hilton in 1992 were remarkable as well: we played the two hour featured program at the conference, and then, beginning at 11 p.m., played the entire Grand Partita by Mozart. What a workout! Thank heaven Kitty O'Shea's was right there, beckoning like an in-house emergency room. Really what I am most grateful for are the friendships made along the way.

Do you have any new retirement ventures or plans?

I feel very, very fortunate to continue performing with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, and to continue teaching at Westfield College in Westfield, MA.

Reflecting on your 30 years of service, if you could go back in time to give your 24 yr old self one piece of advice, what would it be?
I would tell myself to be patient, practice hard, and remember everything.

Considering your many accomplishments as both musician and Public Affairs Assistant, of what are you most proud?
I'm tempted to say outwitting the office machines, but the jury is still out on that, I'm not retired yet. This question reminds me of a famous aphorism of John Mack's: "Never take no for an answer from an inanimate object." He was talking about his instrument, the oboe. I'm proud that I was able to perform on a professional level in all kinds of places, and that I never quit trying to create something special for both my colleagues and our audiences.

AWARDS

Congratulations to. . .

Chief Musician Stephen Wade, upon receiving the **Coast Guard Commendation Medal**. His notable legacy over three decades in the Coast Guard Band promoted the goodwill of the Coast Guard through artistic, expressive performances around the globe, and included further successes as principal oboe, group leader of the United States Coast Guard Woodwind Quintet, and as recital coordinator of the US Coast Guard Chamber Players Recital Series.

Chief Musician Barrett Seals for receiving the **Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal** in recognition for volunteering over 4,000 hours over the course of nearly a decade in support of educational initiatives at the Mystic Aquarium.

The Band welcomes its two newest members:

Musician First Class Laurie Baynard, flute and **Musician First Class Robert Langslet**, piano

SPECIAL CONCERT



UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

Sunday, October 21
2:00 p.m.
Leamy Concert Hall

free admission - no ticket required!

plan to arrive early as the hall will certainly be filled to capacity for this exciting event.

Concert Band

MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS

Sunday, September 30—2 p.m. Athol High School, Athol, MA
The Band presents a program featuring the music of acclaimed American film composer John Williams.

Broadway, Baby!

Friday, October 12 - 7:30 p.m. The Morgan School, Clinton, CT
This performance is free and open to the public. However, tickets are required. Call the Clinton Chamber of Commerce at (860) 669-3889 or email chamber@clintonct.com for ticket information.

Sunday, October 14 - 2 p.m. Leamy Concert Hall, New London, CT
Vocalist Megan Weikleenget is featured in a program of Broadway's most popular show tunes. Join us for the Friday evening performance at The Morgan School or the Sunday matinee at Leamy Concert Hall.

Shakespeare with the flock Theatre

Sunday, November 18 - 2 p.m. Leamy Concert Hall, New London, CT
The Band welcomes New London's Flock Theatre troupe back to Leamy Concert Hall for an afternoon of Shakespeare vignettes and music inspired by the playwright and poet.

Celebrate the Season!

Sunday, December 16 - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Leamy Concert Hall, New London, CT
Step out of the cold for the Band's annual holiday concerts. The hour-long matinee and full length evening concert feature some of your favorite holiday classics.

Chamber Players

All performances begin at 2 PM, and unless otherwise noted, take place in Leamy Concert Hall.

September 16
September 23 - Oboist Stephen Wade performs in Leamy Concert Hall with pianist Kevin Murphy, bassoonist Rebecca Noreen, the United States Coast Guard Woodwind Quintet, and members of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. The program includes the *Trio for Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano* by Francis Poulenc; *Piece en forme de Choros* by Heitor Villa-Lobos; and the *Seranata Notturna* by William Bolcom.

October 7 - Noank Baptist Church
December 9

All performances are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, no tickets are required. For more information about the Coast Guard Band, call our Concert Information Line, 860.701.6826, or visit www.uscg.mil/band.

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| Leamy Concert Hall The United States Coast Guard Academy 15 Mohegan Avenue New London, CT 06320 | Athol High School 2363 Main Street Athol, MA 01331 978.249.2435 | The Morgan School 27 Killingworth Turnpike 860.664.6504 | Noank Baptist Church 18 Cathedral Heights Groton, CT 06340 860.536.7129 |
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